CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- A method of compressing video, comprising: grouping video frames that are between consecutive I-frames into a video data set; splitting the video data set into a plurality of homogeneous files; and individually compressing each of the homogeneous files.
- 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the video frames include P-frames and B-frames.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said splitting includes storing mode information of the video data set and motion components in separate files.
- 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said splitting includes storing horizontal components of the video data set and vertical components of the video data set in separate files.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said splitting includes storing B-frame components of the video data set and P-frame components of the video data set in separate files
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said splitting includes storing mode 3 B-frame components of the video data set and mode 0, 1, and 2 B-frame components of the video data set in separate files.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said splitting includes storing different color components of the video data set in different files.

- A method according to claim 1, further comprising mapping negative values in one
 of the homogeneous files into positive values.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said compressing includes applying a grammar-based code.
- A method according to claim 9, wherein said applying includes employing a YK algorithm.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said compressing includes bit plane encoding quantized transform coefficients obtained from the video data set.
- A method according to claim 11, wherein said compressing includes performing a run-length encoding of bit planed encoded coefficients.
- A method according to claim 1, wherein said homogeneous files have similar statistical properties.
- A method according to claim 1, further comprising multiplexing the separate files into a bit stream.
- 15. A method according to claim 14, further comprising prefixing a corresponding header to each of the separate files, said header indicating a size of a corresponding separate file
- 16. A computer-readable medium bearing instructions for compressing video, said instructions being arranged, upon execution by one or more processors, to perform the steps of the methods as in any of claims 1-15.
 - 17. A video compression system, comprising:

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means for grouping video frames that are between consecutive I-frames into a video data set;

means for splitting the video data set into a plurality of homogeneous files; and means for individually compressing each of the homogeneous files.

18. A video compression system according to claim 17, further comprising: means for multiplexing the individually compressed files into a bit stream.